



Montgomery County Council

From the Office of Councilmember Valerie Ervin

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Contact: Sonya Healy 240-777-7970

Councilmember Ervin to be Honored by National Council of Asian Indian Associations

*Community Members Will Celebrate India's 66th
Independence Day on Sunday, Aug. 26, in Greenbelt*

ROCKVILLE, Md., August 23, 2011—Montgomery County Councilmember Valerie Ervin will be honored by members of the National Council of Asian Indian Associations during their celebration of India's 66th Independence Day on Sunday, Aug. 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt. Indian Ambassador H.E. Nirupama Rao is also invited to attend the celebration.

Councilmember Ervin is being recognized as one of the County's distinguished leaders. India became an independent nation on Aug. 15, 1947. Each year, to celebrate the anniversary, people pay homage to their leaders and those who fought for India's freedom.

"I am truly honored to be recognized by the National Council of Asian Indian Associations," said Councilmember Ervin. "This organization exemplifies the commitment of the Asian Indian community to freedom, democracy and full participation in community life. I look forward to a continued relationship as we build toward a more inclusive and diverse society."

As one of the world's largest democracies, India's struggle for independence began in 1857 with the Sepoy Mutiny in Meerut. The Indian National Congress and other political organizations, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, launched a national independence movement. Toward midnight on Aug. 15, 1947, India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, delivered his "Tryst with Destiny" speech, which marked the start of a new era of freedom from more than 200 years of British colonialism. India's Independence Day is celebrated by all citizens of India, regardless of caste, creed or religion.

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